

How Big is the US Militia?

How does the Constitutional Militia of the United States compare to the rest of the world's regular armies?

QUESTION: What is the Militia of the United States referred to in part II of the Bill of Rights?

The Distinction between the National Guard and the constitutional Unorganized Militia

The National Guard *did not exist* from the beginnings of the Republic until 1903 when it was instituted and created by Congress as the Act of January 21 , 1903, known by the name of its sponsor as "The Dick Act".

In 1982 the Senate Judiciary Committee Sub-committee on the Constitution stated in [Senate Document 2807](#):

"That the National Guard is not the 'Militia' referred to in the Second Amendment is even clearer today. Congress had organized the National Guard under its power to 'raise and support armies' and not its power to 'Provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia.' **The modern National Guard was specifically intended to avoid status as the constitutional militia**, a distinction recognized by 10 U.S.C. 311(a).

Title 32 U.S.C. in July 1918 completely altered the definition of the militia and its service, who controls it and what it is. The difference between the National Guard and Regular Army was swept away, and became a *personnel pay folder classification only*, thus **nationalizing** the entire National Guard into the **Regular Standing Armies** of the United States."

All the arms, munitions, armament and equipment of the National Guard is owned and controlled by the federal government, not by "the people" as clearly stipulated in the last phrase of the Second Amendment. [i.e. the Constitutional Militia is defined as consisting of individuals owning their own arms and ammunition.]

The Unorganized Militia consists of all able-bodied persons of the nation and of the states between the ages of 17 and 44, and is *exclusive of all members of the organized militia*, i.e., the Armed Forces of the Federal Government of the United States and of the National Guards of the various states of the Union:

Title 10 U.S.C. 311. Militia: composition and classes

(a) The militia of the United States consists of **all able-bodied males at least 17 years of age** and, except as provided in section 313 of title 32, under 45 years of age who are, or who have made a declaration of intention to become, citizens of the United States and of female citizens of the United States who are members of the National Guard.

(b) The classes of the militia are -

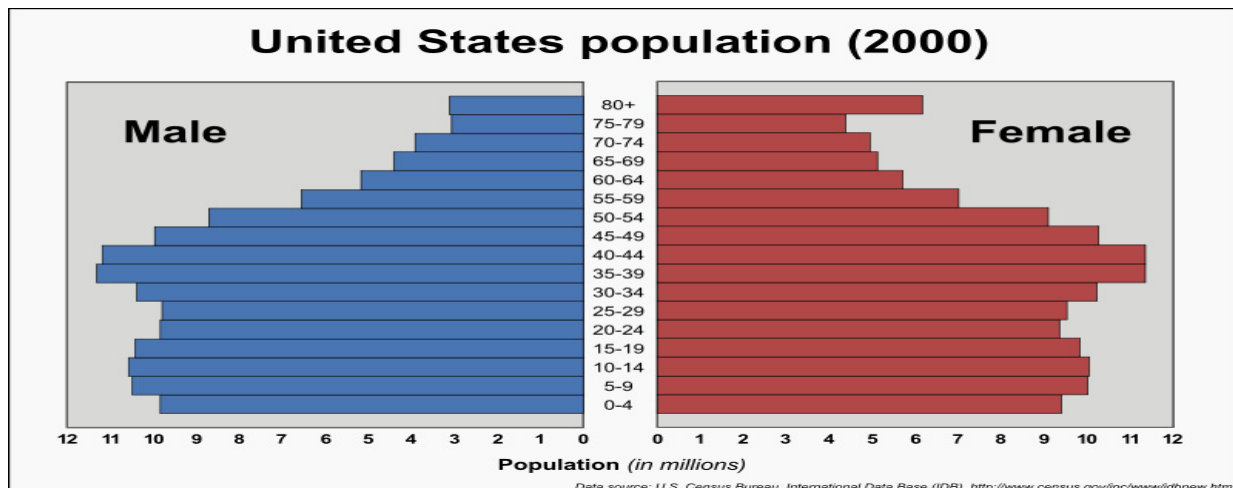
(1) the organized militia, which consists of the National Guard and the Naval Militia; and

(2) the **unorganized militia**, which consists of the members of the militia who **are not members** of the National Guard or the Naval Militia.

US Age structure:

15–64 years: 67% (male 102,665,043/female 103,129,321)

Therefore, U.S. part 2 Militia total strength is roughly 120 million.



But how many possess their own weapons and ammunition?

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation



5 YEAR TREND INFORMATION

A comparison of estimates of the 2006 and 2001 Surveys reveals that millions of Americans continue to enjoy wildlife recreation.

...
Hunting — Five percent of the U.S. population 16 years old and older, 12.5 million people, hunted in 2006. They spent an average of 18 days pursuing their sport. The number of all hunters declined by 4% from 2001 to 2006 and there was a 3% drop in overall expenditures (not a statistically significant change).

...
As in the case of fishing expenditures, **expenditures for hunting equipment (firearms, ammunition, etc.) actually increased 3%**, as did hunting trips which rose by 13%.

NOTE: To get a hunting license, one has to demonstrate basic proficiency in the use of a firearm. Thus practically all hunters under 45 years of age qualify as armed “regularized” or “regulated” militia possessing their own firearms and ammunition.












This sets the **lower limit for the known size of the part 2 militia** at about **9 million** [excluding hunters over 47 years old], to about **12 million** [including “second call” militia 47 – 60 years old].

The actual size is much larger, as there are many firearm owners in this age range who are not licensed hunters.

































In 2010 39% of U.S. citizens owned their own firearms. Therefore the upper limit on the U.S. militia size is **120 million**. This excludes persons over 60 years old, but includes gun owners who might also be serving in the government organized militias (Navy, Army, etc.).

















Therefore the civilian organized **U.S. Militia is about 10 to 110 million strong**.





























How does that stack up globally?



























Flag	State	Active Military	Reserve Military	Paramilitary	Total	Total per 1000 capita	Active per 1000 capita
	<u>Afghanistan</u> ^[1]	164,000	0	0	164,000	5.8	5.8
	<u>Albania</u> ^[2]	14,295	0	500	14,795	4.1	3.9
	<u>Algeria</u> ^[3]	147,000	150,000	187,200	484,200	14.2	4.3
	<u>Angola</u> ^[4]	107,000	0	10,000	117,000	9.1	8.4
	<u>Antigua and Barbuda</u> ^[5]	170	75	0	245	2.9	2
	<u>Argentina</u> ^[6]	73,100	0	31,240	104,340	2.6	1.8
	<u>Armenia</u> ^[7]	46,684	210,000	4,748	261,432	88.1	15.7
	<u>Australia</u> ^{[8][9]}	57,500	25,000	0	82,500	3.9	2.7
	<u>Austria</u> ^[10]	27,300	195,000	9,400	231,700	28.2	3.3
	<u>Azerbaijan</u> ^[11]	66,940	300,000	15,000	381,940	46.4	8.1
	<u>Bahamas</u> ^[12]	860	0	0	860	2.8	2.8
	<u>Bahrain</u> ^[13]	8,200	0	11,260	19,460	26.7	11.3
	<u>Bangladesh</u> ^[14]	157,053	0	63,900	220,953	1.4	1
	<u>Barbados</u> ^[12]	610	430	0	1,040	3.7	2.1
	<u>Belarus</u> ^[15]	72,940	289,500	110,000	472,440	49	7.6
	<u>Belgium</u> ^[16]	38,452	2,040	0	40,492	3.9	3.7
	<u>Belize</u> ^[17]	1,050	700	0	1,750	5.7	3.4
	<u>Benin</u> ^[18]	4,750	0	2,500	7,250	0.8	0.5
	<u>Bhutan</u> ^{[19][20][note a]}	5,445	0	555	6,000	8.5	7.7
	<u>Bolivia</u> ^[21]	46,100	0	37,100	83,200	8.5	4.7
	<u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u> ^[22]	11,099	0	0	11,099	2.4	2.4
	<u>Botswana</u> ^[23]	9,000	0	1,500	10,500	5.3	4.5
	<u>Brazil</u> ^{[24][note b]}	327,710	1,340,000	0	1,667,710	8.4	1.6
	<u>Brunei</u> ^[25]	7,000	700	2,250	9,950	25.6	18
	<u>Bulgaria</u> ^[26]	34,975	302,500	34,000	371,475	51.6	4.9
	<u>Burkina Faso</u> ^[27]	11,200	0	250	11,450	0.7	0.7
	<u>Burundi</u> ^[28]	20,000	0	31,050	51,050	5.4	2.1
	<u>Cambodia</u> ^[29]	124,300	0	67,000	191,300	13.2	8.6
	<u>Cameroon</u> ^[30]	14,100	0	9,000	23,100	1.2	0.7
	<u>Canada</u> ^[31]	68,250	55,150	4,554	127,954	3.8	2 ^[32]
	<u>Cape Verde</u> ^[33]	1,200	0	0	1,200	2.8	2.8

Flag	State	Active Military	Reserve Military	Paramilitary	Total	Total per 1000 capita	Active per 1000 capita
	Central African Republic^[34]	2,150	0	1,000	3,150	0.7	0.5
	Chad^[35]	25,350	0	9,500	34,850	3.4	2.5
	Chile^[36]	60,560	40,000	41,500	142,060	8.6	3.6
	People's Republic of China^[37]	2,285,000	800,000	1,500,000	4,585,000	3.4	1.7 ^{[38][39]}
	Colombia^[40]	285,220	61,900	144,097	491,217	11.2	6.5
	Costa Rica^[41]	0	0	9,800	9,800	2.3	0
	Croatia^[42]	18,600	21,000	3,000	42,600	9.5	4.1
	Cuba^{[43][note c]}	49,000	1,159,000	26,500	1,234,500	107.8	4.3
	Cyprus^[44]	10,050	50,000	750	60,800	56	9.3
	Czech Republic^[45]	17,932	0	10,988	28,920	2.8	1.8
	Côte d'Ivoire^[46]	17,050	10,000	1,500	28,550	1.4	0.8
	Democratic Republic of the Congo^[47]	151,251	0	1,400	152,651	2.2	2.2
	Denmark^[48]	26,585	53,507	0	80,092	14.6	4.8
	Djibouti^[49]	12,000	2,000	2,450	16,450	18.2	13.2
	Dominican Republic^[50]	49,910	0	15,000	64,910	6.7	5.2
	Ecuador^[51]	57,983	118,000	400	176,383	12.1	4
	Egypt^[52]	468,500	479,000	397,000	1,344,500	17	5.9
	El Salvador^[53]	15,500	9,900	17,000	42,400	5.9	2.2
	Equatorial Guinea^[54]	1,320	0	2,000	3,320	5.2	2.1
	Eritrea^[55]	201,750	120,000	0	321,750	57	35.7
	Estonia^[56]	4,750	25,000	10,766	40,516	31.2	3.7
	Ethiopia^[57]	138,000	0	0	138,000	1.6	1.6
	Fiji^[58]	3,500	6,000	0	9,500	10.1	3.7
	Finland^{[59][note d]}	22,600	361,500	7,550	391,650	74.6	4.3
	France^{[60][note e]}	352,771	70,300	46,390	469,461	7.3	5.5
	Gabon^[61]	4,700	0	2,000	6,700	4.4	3.1
	Gambia^[62]	800	0	0	800	0.4	0.4
	Georgia^[63]	21,150	0	11,700	32,850	7.5	4.8
	Germany^[64]	250,613	200,812	0	451,425	5.5	3

Flag	State	Active Military	Reserve Military	Paramilitary	Total	Total per 1000 capita	Active per 1000 capita
	<u>Ghana^[65]</u>	15,500	0	0	15,500	0.6	0.6
	<u>Greece^{[66][67]}</u>	177,600	280,000	4,000	461,600	43	16.5
	<u>Guatemala^[68]</u>	15,212	63,863	18,536	97,611	7.4	1.1
	<u>Guinea^[69]</u>	12,300	0	7,000	19,300	1.9	1.2
	<u>Guinea-Bissau^[70]</u>	4,450	0	2,000	6,450	4.2	2.9
	<u>Guyana^[71]</u>	1,100	670	1,500	3,270	4.3	1.5
	<u>Haiti^[72]</u>	0	0	2,000	2,000	0.2	0
	<u>Honduras^[73]</u>	12,000	60,000	8,000	80,000	10.2	1.5
	<u>Hungary^[74]</u>	29,450	44,000	12,000	85,450	8.6	3
	<u>Iceland^[75]</u>	0	0	130	130	0.4	0
	<u>India^{[76][note f]}</u>	1,325,000	2,142,821	1,300,586	4,768,407	3.9	1.1
	<u>Indonesia^[77]</u>	302,000	400,000	280,000	982,000	4.1	1.3
	<u>Iran^{[78][79][note g]}</u>	523,000	1,800,000	1,510,000	3,833,000	57.7	7.9
	<u>Iraq^[80]</u>	191,957	0	386,312	578,269	20	6.6
	<u>Ireland^[81]</u>	10,460	14,875	0	25,335	5.5	2.3
	<u>Israel^[82]</u>	176,500	565,000	8,050	749,550	103.6	24.4
	<u>Italy^{[83][note h]}</u>	293,202	41,867	142,933	478,002	8.2	5
	<u>Jamaica^[84]</u>	2,830	953	0	3,783	1.3	1
	<u>Japan^[85]</u>	230,300	41,800	12,250	284,350	2.2	1.8
	<u>Jordan^[86]</u>	100,500	65,000	10,000	175,500	28	16
	<u>Kazakhstan^[87]</u>	49,000	0	31,500	80,500	5.2	3.2
	<u>Kenya^[88]</u>	24,120	0	5,000	29,120	0.7	0.6
	<u>Kosovo^{[89][90][91]}</u>	2,800	800	0	3,600	2.1	1.6
	<u>Kuwait^[92]</u>	15,500	23,700	7,100	46,300	17.2	5.8
	<u>Kyrgyzstan^[93]</u>	10,900	0	9,500	20,400	3.8	2
	<u>Laos^[94]</u>	29,100	0	100,000	129,100	18.9	4.3
	<u>Latvia^{[95][note i]}</u>	5,745	10,866	0	16,611	7.4	2.6
	<u>Lebanon^[96]</u>	59,100	232,635	20,000	311,735	77.6	14.7
	<u>Lesotho^[97]</u>	2,000	0	0	2,000	0.9	0.9
	<u>Liberia^[98]</u>	2,400	0	0	2,400	0.7	0.7
	<u>Libya^[99]</u>	76,000	40,000	0	116,000	18.3	12
	<u>Lithuania^[100]</u>	8,850	6,700	14,600	30,150	8.5	2.5

Flag	State	Active Military	Reserve Military	Paramilitary	Total	Total per 1000 capita	Active per 1000 capita
	<u>Luxembourg^[101]</u>	900	0	612	1,512	3.1	1.8
	<u>Madagascar^[102]</u>	13,500	0	8,100	21,600	1	0.7
	<u>Malawi^[103]</u>	5,300	0	1,500	6,800	0.5	0.4
	<u>Malaysia^{[104][note j]}</u>	109,000	296,300	24,600	429,900	16.7	4.2
	<u>Mali^[105]</u>	7,350	0	7,800	15,150	1.1	0.5
	<u>Malta^[106]</u>	1,954	167	0	2,121	5.2	4.8
	<u>Mauritania^[107]</u>	15,870	0	5,000	20,870	6.7	5.1
	<u>Mauritius^[108]</u>	0	0	2,000	2,000	1.6	0
	<u>Mexico^[109]</u>	267,506	39,899	36,500	343,905	3.1	2.4
	<u>Moldova^[110]</u>	5,998	66,000	2,379	74,377	17.2	1.4
	<u>Monaco^{[111][112][113]}</u>	0	0	255	255	7.2	0
	<u>Mongolia^[114]</u>	10,000	137,000	7,200	154,200	50.7	3.3
	<u>Montenegro^[115]</u>	3,127	0	10,100	13,227	19.7	4.7
	<u>Morocco^[116]</u>	195,800	150,000	50,000	395,800	12.7	6.3
	<u>Mozambique^[117]</u>	11,200	0	0	11,200	0.5	0.5
	<u>Myanmar^[118]</u>	406,000	0	107,250	513,250	10.7	8.4
	<u>Namibia^[119]</u>	9,200	0	6,000	15,200	7.2	4.4
	<u>Nepal^[120]</u>	95,753	0	62,000	157,753	5.5	3.4
	<u>Netherlands^[121]</u>	61,302	3,339	3,000	67,641	4	3.7
	<u>New Zealand^[122]</u>	9,702	2,249	0	11,951	2.8	2.3
	<u>Nicaragua^[123]</u>	12,000	0	0	12,000	2	2
	<u>Niger^[124]</u>	5,300	0	5,400	10,700	0.7	0.3
	<u>Nigeria^[125]</u>	80,000	0	82,000	162,000	1.1	0.5
	<u>North Korea^{[126][note k]}</u>	1,106,000	8,200,000	189,000	9,495,000	418.9	48.8
	<u>Northern Cyprus^[127]</u>	5,000	26,000	150	31,150	117.5	18.9
	<u>Norway^[128]</u>	24,025	45,250	0	69,275	14.9	5.2
	<u>Oman^[129]</u>	42,600	0	4,400	47,000	13.8	12.5
	<u>Pakistan^{[130][131]}</u>	677,000	513,000	304,000	1,494,000	8.6	3.9
	<u>Palestine^{[132][note l]}</u>	0	0	56,000	56,000	14	0
	<u>Panama^[133]</u>	0	0	12,000	12,000	3.6	0
	<u>Papua New Guinea^[134]</u>	3,100	0	0	3,100	0.5	0.5
	<u>Paraguay^[135]</u>	10,650	164,500	14,800	189,950	27.2	1.5

Flag	State	Active Military	Reserve Military	Paramilitary	Total	Total per 1000 capita	Active per 1000 capita
	<u>Peru</u> ^{[136][note m]}	114,000	195,000	77,000	386,000	13.1	3.9
	<u>Philippines</u> ^{[137][note n]}	120,000	171,000	40,500	331,500	3.4	1.2
	<u>Poland</u> ^{[138][139][140]}	99,778	10,000	28,100	137,878	3.6	2.6
	<u>Portugal</u> ^[141]	43,330	210,900	47,700	301,930	28.2	4
	<u>Qatar</u> ^[142]	11,800	0	0	11,800	13.4	13.4
	<u>Republic of Macedonia</u> ^[143]	8,000	4,850	0	12,850	6.2	3.9
	<u>Republic of the Congo</u> ^[144]	10,000	0	2,000	12,000	3	2.5
	<u>Romania</u> ^[145]	73,350	45,000	79,900	198,250	8.9	3.3
	<u>Russian Federation</u> ^{[146][note o]}	1,027,000	20,000,000	449,000	21,476,000	153.4	7.3
	<u>Rwanda</u> ^[147]	33,000	0	2,000	35,000	3.3	3.1
	<u>Saint Kitts and Nevis</u> ^{[148][note p]}	70	130	119	319	6.2	1.4
	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> ^[149]	233,500	0	15,500	249,000	8.7	8.1
	<u>Senegal</u> ^[150]	13,620	0	5,000	18,620	1.4	1
	<u>Serbia</u> ^{[151][152]}	40,000	50,171	0	90,171	12.2	5.4
	<u>Seychelles</u> ^[153]	200	0	450	650	7.4	2.3
	<u>Sierra Leone</u> ^[154]	10,500	0	0	10,500	2	2
	<u>Singapore</u> ^{[155][note q]}	72,500	356,500	93,800	522,800	112.2	15.6
	<u>Slovakia</u> ^[156]	16,531	0	0	16,531	3	3
	<u>Slovenia</u> ^[157]	7,200	3,800	4,500	15,500	7.7	3.6
	<u>Somalia</u> ^[158]	2,000	0	0	2,000	0.2	0.2
	<u>Somaliland</u> ^[159]	15,350	0	0	15,350	4.4	4.4
	<u>South Africa</u> ^[160]	62,082	15,071	12,382	89,535	1.8	1.3
	<u>Republic of Korea</u> ^{[161][note r]}	687,000	8,000,000	4,500	8,691,500	173.6	13.7
	<u>Spain</u> ^[162]	128,013	319,000	80,210	527,223	13	3.2
	<u>Sri Lanka</u> ^{[163][note s]}	160,900	35,900	62,200	259,000	12.1	7.5
	<u>Sudan</u> ^{[163][note t]}	109,300	85,000	17,500	211,800	5.2	2.7
	<u>Suriname</u> ^[164]	1,840	0	0	1,840	3.8	3.8
	<u>Swaziland</u> ^{[165][166][167][note}	3,000	0	644	3,644	3.1	2.5

Flag	State	Active Military	Reserve Military	Paramilitary	Total	Total per 1000 capita	Active per 1000 capita
	<u>Sweden</u> ^{[168][note v]}	13,050	242,000	800	255,850	28.2	1.4
	<u>Switzerland</u> ^[169]	22,059	174,071	80,000	276,130	36.3	2.9
	<u>Syria</u> ^[170]	325,000	314,000	108,000	747,000	34.3	14.9
	<u>Republic of China</u> ^[171]	290,000	1,657,000	17,000	1,964,000	85.5	12.6
	<u>Tajikistan</u> ^[172]	8,800	0	7,500	16,300	2.2	1.2
	<u>Tanzania</u> ^[173]	27,000	80,000	1,400	108,400	2.6	0.7
	<u>Thailand</u> ^{[174][note w]}	305,860	245,000	113,700	664,560	10.1	4.6
	<u>Timor Leste</u> ^[175]	1,332	0	0	1,332	1.3	1.3
	<u>Togo</u> ^[176]	8,550	0	750	9,300	1.5	1.4
	<u>Trinidad and Tobago</u> ^[177]	4,063	0	0	4,063	3.3	3.3
	<u>Tunisia</u> ^[178]	35,800	0	12,000	47,800	4.6	3.4
	<u>Turkey</u> ^{[179][180][181]}	666,576	378,700	152,200	1,197,476	15.6	8.7
	<u>Turkmenistan</u> ^[182]	22,000	0	0	22,000	4.5	4.5
	<u>Uganda</u> ^[183]	45,000	0	1,800	46,800	1.4	1.4
	<u>Ukraine</u> ^[184]	129,925	1,000,000	84,900	1,214,825	26.6	2.8
	<u>United Arab Emirates</u> ^[185]	51,000	0	0	51,000	10.6	10.6
	<u>United Kingdom</u> ^{[186][187][188]}	197,780	212,400	0	410,180	6.7	3.2
	<u>United States of America</u> ^{[189][190]}	1,458,219	1,458,500 + Constitutional Militia, 110,000,000	11,035	112,927,754	9.3	4.7
	<u>Uruguay</u> ^[191]	24,621	0	920	25,541	7.3	7
	<u>Uzbekistan</u> ^[192]	67,000	0	20,000	87,000	3.2	2.4
	<u>Vanuatu</u> ^[193]	0	0	300	300	1.3	0
	<u>Venezuela</u> ^[194]	115,000	8,000	0	123,000	4.6	4.3
	<u>Vietnam</u> ^{[195][note x]}	455,000	5,000,000	40,000	5,495,000	62	5.1
	<u>Yemen</u> ^[196]	66,700	0	71,200	137,900	6	2.9
	<u>Zambia</u> ^[197]	15,100	3,000	1,400	19,500	1.6	1.3
	<u>Zimbabwe</u> ^[198]	29,000	0	21,800	50,800	4.5	2.5

CONCLUSION:

The United States civilian organized Militia in terms of sheer numbers blows away every other combined military force on the planet, with the Russian Federation being the only worthy competitor, followed by Korea, India, and Viet Nam.

EPILOGUE



In WWII, Japan's highest-ranking naval officer was Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto. Although he was Japanese, and his loyalties were unquestionably with The Empire, he studied for many years in America, graduating from Harvard University. There is an oft-repeated (and sometimes disputed) quote attributed to him regarding the possibility of any nation taking a war to American soil:

"You cannot invade the mainland United States. There would be a rifle behind every blade of grass."

Here is why he was correct:

The state of Wisconsin recently completed an entire deer hunting season without someone getting killed. That's great, considering there were over 600,000 hunters that got permits in 2010.

Allow me to restate that number.

Over the last two months, the eighth largest army in the world - more men under arms than Iran; more than France and Germany combined - deployed to the woods of a single American state to keep the deer population under control.

But that pales in comparison to the 750,000 who were in the woods of Pennsylvania or Michigan's 700,000 hunters have now returned home. Toss in a quarter million hunters in West Virginia, and it is literally the case that the hunters of those four states alone would comprise the largest army in the world.

And that is just FOUR states.

The total population of registered hunters in America today ranges from 23 million, to 43.7 million individuals. (Based on annual data provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service.)

As long as the American Hunter retains his right to Bear Arms, America will forever be safe from foreign invasion of troops.

Hunting - it's not just a way to fill the freezer. It's a matter of national security.

